

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/635,693

~~Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 12, with the following rewritten paragraph:~~

b2
This folding container is configured as follows: to fold the container, the short side walls are folded so as to overlap the bottom portion, and the long side walls are further folded onto the short side walls. Then, to erect the container the folded long side walls are stood up perpendicularly with respect to the bottom portion, and folded short side walls are then stood up perpendicularly with respect to the bottom portion to thereby assemble the box-shaped folder container.

~~Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 18, with the following rewritten paragraph:~~

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When the folding container is folded, the bottom portion is located at the bottom, the short side walls, which are folded so as to overlap the bottom portion, are located thereof, and the long side walls, which are folded so as to overlap the short side walls, are located thereon. To stack up folding containers folded in this manner, the bottom portion of an upper folded folding container is placed on the long side walls of a lower folded folding container. In addition, the folding container has generally L-shaped fitted shoulder sections, each formed near a corresponding one of the lower corners (located on the bottom portion side) of the long side walls thereof, so that when the container is folded, the fitted shoulder sections, each having a generally L-shaped planar shape, are each located at a corresponding one of the four corners of the two long side walls. Since the folding container is configured so that in stacking up folded folding containers, the bottom portion of an upper folded folding container is fitted in the shoulder sections located at the four corners of the two

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concl long side walls of a lower folded folding container, horizontal movement of the upper folded folding container relative to the lower folded folding container is limited to allow a large number of folded folding containers to be stacked up stably to prevent collapse.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 10, with the following rewritten paragraph:

B4 Figure 2 is a perspective view showing the folding container according to the present invention in an intermediate condition of assembly.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 12, with the following rewritten paragraph:

B5 Figure 3 is a perspective view showing the folding container according to the present invention in a folded condition.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 20, with the following rewritten paragraph:

B6 Figure 6 is an exploded fragmentary perspective view of regions of ends of the bottom portion and long side walls of the folding container according to the invention.

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Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In addition, plate pieces 106a are extended upward generally perpendicularly from the upper end of the inner wall 104b constituting the double wall section 104. Each of the plate pieces 106a has a generally semicylindrical hook 106b connected thereto and disposed on the end wall 105 side relative to the plate piece 106a, so that the plate piece 106a and the hook 106b constitute an inverted generally J-shaped hinge female section 106. The hinge female section 106 has almost the same height as the end wall 105, and an appropriate number of hinge female sections 106 are formed along the long side portion 101 (in this embodiment, four hinge female sections 106 are formed at almost equal intervals). Inside the double wall section 104, internal reinforcing ribs 107 can be formed at appropriate intervals for connecting the outer wall 104a, the inner wall 104b, and the horizontal wall 104c together.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The long side portion 101 has an end locking block 109 formed at each of the opposite ends thereof by extending the outer wall 104a and inner wall 104b of the double wall section 104 upward, the end locking block 109 being substantially as high as the long side locking block 108. The end locking block 109 has a placement surface 109a having substantially the same height as the placement surface 108c of the long-side locking block 108 and a projecting portion 109b projecting upward from the placement surface 109a. The projecting portion 109b comprises a projecting

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and
sub-portion 109b' extending along the long side portion 101 and a projecting sub-portion 109b" extending perpendicularly to the projecting sub-portion 109b' in the direction of the short side portion 102, and is formed to have a generally L-shaped planar shape. The end locking block 109 has an outer surface 109c also formed to be substantially flush with the outer surface 105a of the end wall 105. 110 is a reinforcing block formed as appropriate in a corner formed of the end wall 105 and the horizontal wall 104c of the double wall section 104. An upper end of the reinforcing block 110 is aligned with the upper end of the end wall 105 but can be located therebelow as required.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Further, if the sizes of the folding containers vary, in other words, the sizes of the long side walls 200 or short side walls 300 vary, the positions of the label sticking sections or card holders provided on the long side walls 200 or the short side walls 300 may vary significantly. Despite the different sizes of the folding containers, the positions of the bottom portions 100, particularly, their heights do not vary significantly. Thus, if a read sensor of a reader disposed near a transfer device is used to read a label printed on or stuck to the recess 115 for printing or label sticking formed in the outer wall 104a of the double wall section 104 of the bottom portion 100 in the middle of being transferred to the transfer device such as a belt conveyer, it can accurately and reliably read the various information such as the type and destination of the articles accommodated in the folding container because the positions of the recesses 115 for printing and label sticking do not vary significantly despite the different sizes of the folding containers. This configuration can prevent